

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (cancelled)
2. (cancelled)
3. (cancelled)
4. (cancelled)
5. (cancelled)
6. (cancelled)
7. (cancelled)
8. (cancelled)
9. (cancelled)
10. (cancelled)
11. (cancelled)
12. (cancelled)
13. (cancelled)

14. (original) A reinforced corner post assembly comprising:

a longitudinal corner post having an outer wall and an inner wall joined at opposing ends to form a tube having a hollow interior, a longitudinal groove being integrally formed in one of the walls, the groove including opposing sides extending from the wall along opposing edges; and

a reinforcing tube disposed within the longitudinal groove, the reinforcing tube having an outer diameter greater than the distance from one edge to the opposite edge.

15. (original) The assembly of claim 14 wherein the outer wall has an exterior side facing away from the hollow interior, and the groove is integrally formed in the exterior side of the outer wall.

16. (original) A reinforced corner post assembly comprising:

a longitudinal corner post formed from a single sheet of material wound into a hollow tube having two or more layers, the corner post having an outer wall and an inner wall joined at opposing ends and a longitudinal slot integrally formed in one of the walls between opposing layers; and

a reinforcing tube disposed within the longitudinal slot.

17. (Amended) A reinforced corner post assembly comprising:

a longitudinal corner post having an outer wall and an inner wall joined at opposing ends to form a hollow tube; and

one or more separate, insertable reinforcing tubes having a circular cross-section and disposed longitudinally within the interior of the corner post, said tubes being collinear with the corner post and substantially the same length as the corner post;

wherein the outside diameter of the reinforcing tubes
is less than the distance between the outer and inner walls
of the corner post, thereby causing the reinforcing tubes to
be held in place by ~~are attached to~~ the outer and inner
walls ~~by attachment means~~.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Amended) A reinforced support post assembly
comprising:

an axial load bearing longitudinal support post having
an outer wall and an inner wall joined at opposing ends to
form a hollow tube having rounded ends; and

one or more separate, insertable reinforcing tubes
disposed longitudinally within the interior of the support
post, said tubes being collinear with the support post and
substantially the same length as the support post;

~~The reinforcing corner post assembly of claim 17~~

wherein the ~~corner~~ support post comprises at least one
inwardly extending bead integrally formed in the outer wall
of the support post, at least one of the one or more

reinforcing tubes being wedged between the bead and one of
the rounded ends of the support post ~~that helps hold the one~~
~~or more reinforcing tubes in place.~~

25. (New) A reinforced corner post assembly comprising:
- a longitudinal corner post manufactured from a single sheet of material that is wetted with adhesive, wound into a tube, formed and dried; and
 - one or more separate, insertable reinforcing tubes inserted into the hollow interior during manufacture of the corner post while the corner post is wet;
- whereupon the corner post shrinks slightly in the horizontal plane during drying, causing the reinforcing tubes to be captured and held tightly in place within the corner post.